

Appln No. 10/552,171
Amdt date July 2, 2008
Reply to Office action of April 2, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-36 were previously pending in the application. Applicants have presented new claims 37 and 38. Therefore, claims 1-38 are now pending in the application.

Claims 23, 26-29, 32 and 35 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The drawings have been objected to. The Examiner states that Figs. 1A-1C show element 11 fixed to support T, but Figs. 2 and 3 do not show this connection such that these figures seem to indicate that the element 11 moves with the backrest R. Applicants submit that Figs. 1A-1C do not show that the element 11 is fixed to the support T. Element 11 is a thickened part of the cable 1, which is represented in Figs. 1A-1C as a cable nipple of the cable 1. Element 11 is shown to extend above the spring 2 in Figs. 1A-1C, but is not fixed to support T. Element 11 and the spring 2 are moveable with the backrest R as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3. *See Amended Specification, page 10, lines 11-32.* In Figs. 1A-1C, element 11 is shown to be thicker than the cable 1. Applicants believe that the Examiner has mistakenly viewed the thicker representation of element 11 as compared to cable 1 as being an attachment point of the cable 1 to support T. Therefore, Applicants request that the objection to the drawings is withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been objected to. Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "coupling member" instead of "coupling element." Applicants request withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1-22, 24, 25, 30-31, 33 and 36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) over Smuk (US 6,152,533). Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 29. Because claim 29 is indicated to be allowable, Applicants believe that claims 1-36 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants have presented new claim 37, which includes limitations of claim 1 and claim 26. Because claim 26 is indicated to be allowable, Applicants believe that claim 37 is in condition for allowance.

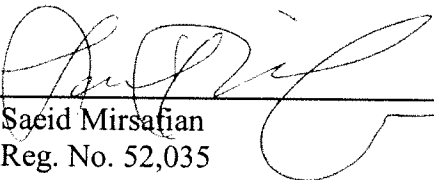
Applicants have amended claim 29 to depend on claim 37.

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Applicants have presented new claim 38, which includes limitations of claim 1 and claims 30 and 32. Because claim 32 is indicated to be allowable, Applicants believe that claim 38 is in condition for allowance.

Applicants believe that claims 1-38 are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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